

Application No.: 09/784,093
Supplemental Amendment dated February 9, 2004
Response to Office Action dated November 6, 2003

Docket No.: 8733.398.00

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. By this Supplemental Reply under 37 CFR § 1.111(a)(2), Applicants hereby add new claims 18-35 and respectfully submit that no new matter has been entered.

Applicants request entry of this Supplemental Reply because, as of the date of this filing (i.e., February 9, 2004), the Reply filed February 5, 2004 has not been docketed to the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit the Examiner has not devoted a significant amount of time on the preparation of an Office action before the filing of this Supplemental Reply. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that entry of the Supplemental Reply would not require significant additional time in the preparation of an Office action.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

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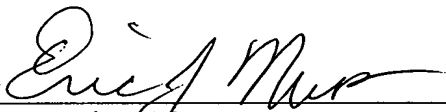
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If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE, LLP

Date: February 9, 2004

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